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Eastern Washington Resource Council Seeks Nominees

PORTLAND – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking applicants for five positions on the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The RAC advises and recommends management strategies for federal lands located in whole or in part within the Spokane District of the BLM and/or the Colville and Okanogan National Forests. BLM Oregon State Director Ed Shepard said, “I cannot emphasize strongly enough what effective partners the RACs have been in helping resolve public land issues that affect quality of life in the Northwest.” Nominations for these key advisors will be accepted through **April 2, 2007**.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires RACs to be balanced and represent the variety of interests concerned with public land management. **Expired terms this year include representatives of: grazing permit or lease holders, local and regional environmental groups, the commercial timber industry, and academics in natural resource science.**

Washington residents may apply or be nominated by others, and current members may be renominated. **Nominations must include a completed background information nomination form, letter(s) of reference from the interest category to be represented, and any other information that demonstrates the nominee’s qualifications.** Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the Council’s geographic area. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making.

Council members are unpaid, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. RACs usually meet quarterly within their geographic area. Appointees serve a three year term. For a nomination form or additional information, please contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, (pam_robbins@or.blm.gov), P.O. Box 2965 Portland, Oregon, (503) 808-6306, or the BLM Spokane District Office, (509) 536-1200.

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

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